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Agenda item 1

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Appointment of three members of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Note by the Secretary-General

1. On 30 April 1996, the Secretary-General sent a note verbale to all Member States informing them that the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed organizational session for 1996, would be called upon to appoint three members to serve on the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), when the term of office of three members expired on 30 June 1996. In the same note verbale, the Secretary-General requested Governments to submit the names and curricula vitae of candidates not later than 31 May 1996.

2. Under the provisions of the statute of the Institute, the Board of Trustees is composed of 11 members nominated by States and appointed by the Economic and Social Council, with due regard to the principle of equitable distribution and the fact that the Institute and its work are funded from voluntary contributions. Members of the Board serve in their individual capacities for a term of three years from the date of appointment. They are eligible for reappointment by the Council for one further term. The current membership of the Board is given in annex I below.

3. At its first regular session of 1983, the Economic and Social Council, on the proposal of the President, decided to maintain the existing de facto geographical balance of the Board without prejudice to any further decision the Council might wish to take with regard to the composition of the Board and the distribution of seats on it (see E/1983/SR.13). Accordingly, in order to maintain the existing geographical balance, the vacancies should be filled by the appointment of one member from the three regional groups concerned.

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4. The candidates listed below were nominated by their Governments in response to the Secretary-General's note verbale. Biographical information on the candidates is contained in annex II below.

African States

Noëlie Kangoye (Burkina Faso)

Asian States

Hiam Omar Kalimat Tuguz (Jordan)

Mona Chemali Khalaf (Lebanon)

Prabha Basnet (Nepal)

Tahera Aftab (née Azmat) (Pakistan)

Western European and other States

Maria Jonas (Austria)

Annex I

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Membership from 1 July 1995

	Term expires on 30 June
Selma Acuner (Turkey)	1997
Ihsan Abdalla Algabshawi (Sudan)	1998
Esther María Ashton (Bolivia)	1998
Fatima Benslimane Hassar (Morocco)	1997
Noëlie Kangoye (Burkina Faso)	1996
Amara Pongsapich (Thailand)	1996
Els Postel-Coster (Netherlands)	1998
Pilar Escario Rodríguez-Spiteri (Spain)	1996
Gail Saunders (Bahamas)	1997
Renata Siemienska-Zochowska (Poland)	1997
Soedarsono (Indonesia)	1997

Annex II

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Noëlie Nitiema Kangoye (Burkina Faso). General Secretary, Ministry of Social Action and the Family. Coordinates administrative and technical services at all levels, promotes relations with Ministry departments, General Secretary of the Government, Council of Ministries and national institutions. Attends to all matters entrusted to her by the Minister's Cabinet. Former Director of the Research Centre for Social Development, Ouagadougou, under the Ministry of Health, Social Welfare and the Family, which acts as INSTRAW's official focal point in Burkina Faso. Has had extensive experience in training staff and different community-level groups on gender-sensitive issues. Is also experienced in elaborating, coordinating and evaluating training programmes for field staff. Has held several official posts related to the social fields, including women's status, health, the family, training of governmental personnel. Has participated in numerous international conferences related to education, the handicapped, agriculture, women and health. Member of the Administration Council, of the National School for Social Service and of national finance and children's villages committees.

Hiam Omar Kalimat Tuquz (Jordan). Director of the general secretariat of the Jordanian National Committee for Women (JNCW) since 1993. Has participated in the formulation of the National Strategy for Women; the Consultant Committee for the "Women in Development Programme"; the Technical Team working on priorities of the Action Plan in Jordan; and the Jordanian Preparatory Committee for the Fourth World Conference on Women. Member of the Technical Team for the National Report for the Fourth World Conference on Women working in the fields of unequal access to education, health and employment and the effects of armed conflicts on women, and in the Rewriting Committee for the National Report. Holds postgraduate degrees in urban and regional planning, special education and education and psychology. Worked for the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development (QAF). Coordinator of the Arab Association for Women and Development (AWAD), responsible for the overall planning and implementation, including administrative/budgetary activities, of the general secretariat activities relevant to both JNCW and AWAD. Member of the National Population Commission (NPC) since March 1995. Has held positions in the Ministry of Planning. Was head of the social development sector and women's projects at the Jordanian National Five-Year Plan and head of the Cultural Agreement and Program Division implementing programmes between Jordan and other Arab and foreign countries. Has held positions at the Amman municipality and within the Ministry of Labour. Has ample experience of subjects such as women workers' rights, employment, gender planning, senior civil servants, analysis of growth rate components and computer applications, self-development of women, small enterprise management, planning, career development of women managers and women's involvement in cooperatives in the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). Has attended numerous Arab and international conferences and seminars, and is a member of professional associations dedicated to issues of special interest. Has published several studies on the status of women, regional planning and drug prevention.

Mona Chemali Khalaf (Lebanon). Assistant Professor of Economics at the Lebanese American University where she previously held a research post in its Business School. Has held other important posts at the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World, at the Lebanese Centre for Policy Studies and at the Centre for Economic Financial and Social Research and Documentation. Has held teaching posts at the Beirut University College and a research post in economics at the American University of Beirut. At present is pursuing research in areas such as Women and work in Lebanon, income, families in the Lebanese banking sector and professional women in Lebanon. Has participated in numerous workshops on women's issues and, as expert in international conferences such as the Arab Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women, was a member of the delegation to the Conference. Member of the Association of Lebanese Women Researchers, Editorial Board of Al-Raida, Lebanese NGO Commissions to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the Lebanese National Commission for Women's Affairs.

Prabha Basnet (Nepal). Secretary to the Ministry of Women and Social Welfare of His Majesty's Government of Nepal. Has held other official posts in councils and ministries dealing with women, development, children, planning, labour, education and social welfare. Has held important posts in higher educational institutions. Board member of the National Computer Centre, the United States Educational Foundation in Nepal, NGO Magushi-Women Development. Has held executive positions in institutions dealing with women and training centres. Has been a delegate of His Majesty's Government/Nepal to the Commission on the Status of Women, and other international and regional conferences and seminars on issues such as women in development, children's development, rural women and income-generating activities, and family planning in home economics. Is a member of international student associations. Has been awarded numerous awards, decorations, scholarships and fellowships. Has published research reports on issues such as women, development, administration, natural resources, education, and agriculture.

Tahera Aftab (née Azmat) (Pakistan). Professor in the Department of General History, University of Karachi, and Director of the Centre of Excellence for Women's Studies. Editor of the Pakistan Journal of Women's Studies and Provost of the Aiwan-i-Liaquat Girl's Hostel at the University of Karachi. Has introduced and developed postgraduate courses on economics, Islamic art, Indian history, tourism, culture and women and gender at the University of Karachi. Has supervised research on women, education and politics. Has published books and numerous articles on issues related to women, such as literacy, development and pioneering Hindu and Muslim women, as well as on the Muslim religion, the Urdu language, education and architecture. Has undertaken research on the history of Pakistan, education and social changes in Muslim society, and published research papers on illiteracy, urban centres of Arabia, education of women in north India, the development of education, history and architecture. Has lectured on women in Islamic and Muslim society, politics, and the history of the women's movement - global and national. Has participated in numerous national and international conferences and workshops concerning women and other issues of international concern. Founder-President of the Pakistan Association for Women's Studies.

Maria Jonas (Austria). Recipient of the "Feminist of the Year" award in 1993 from the Feminist Majority Foundation, United States of America. Was General Secretary for two consecutive periods of Socialist International Women (SIW), an association of women's organizations of social democratic, Socialist and Labour parties throughout the world. As part of her duties at SIW, travelled worldwide visiting women's organizations to evaluate women's projects and subsequently disseminated information among member organizations, non-governmental organizations and individuals. Cooperated with humanitarian and United Nations agencies. Edited the SIW magazine, wrote numerous articles and held speaking engagements. Initiated and assisted the creation or revival of women's organizations, and encouraged and fostered the introduction of a quota in SIW member parties. Held numerous positions such as in the International Department of the Social Democratic Party of Austria, in Socialist International Women offices, and in private industry. Involved at the professional and private level with politics and practical work concerning women, foreign workers and political refugees.